

CITY OF MEDINA

Park Board Meeting

May 16, 2005
7:00 p.m.

Medina City Hall
501 Evergreen Point Road

Call to Order

May 16, 2005, Park Board meeting called to order by Vice Chair, Lisa Fleischman, 7:15 pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Vice Chair Lisa Fleischman, Steve Brustkern, Heija Nunn, and Karen Sparks

Absent:

Chair Connie Gerlitz, Roger Ngouenet, Susannah Stuart

Staff Present:

Joe Willis, Director of Public Works; Rachel Baker, Administrative Assistant

Announcements

Brustkern showed board members dog waste bags he brought back from a recent trip to California and suggested these may be more economical than product currently used in Medina. Following discussion, board suggested further investigation and consideration of product, and noted website for record as: www.dogipot.com.

Minutes

MOTION NUNN, SECOND BRUSTKERN TO APPROVE APRIL 18, 2005 PARK BOARD MINUTES, 7:15 PM.

Audience Participation

Wilma Edmonds, 7721 NE 24th St, Medina (7:17 pm)

Resident summarized park study conducted by previous park board and 1965 bond issue for Medina Park and the determination it would be a passive park. Edmonds stated opposition for additional spending for playgrounds at Medina's parks and expressed disappointment with current play equipment style. Edmonds speculated a similar population of children currently resides in Medina

as when she raised her children and suggested families use play equipment at area schools.

Park Reports (7:33 pm)

Sparks noted she has spoken to Pat Crickmore about two fire hydrants hidden behind weeds on Northeast 32nd Street near Fairweather Nature Preserve and was told the City of Bellevue is responsible for maintaining area around hydrants, but Public Works would mow next to them. Willis said he would contact City of Bellevue for maintenance.

Nunn reported there is glass in crosswalk near Medina Park and suggested tiger tail weeds in five-corners area should be removed or hidden behind new plantings. Willis indicated the area had recently been weeded, but may be due for weeding again.

Nunn suggested replacing wood chips with pea gravel in play structure area in Medina Park and asked board to consider switching current standard swings to baby bucket swings in an effort to coincide with age five and under users.

Nunn announced there are native turtles residing in pond at Medina Park.

Fleischman inquired about dog ramp maintenance on east end of Medina Park. Willis said the area would be leveled and a fabric would be installed and seeded with grass to prevent further erosion. Fleischman suggested automatic shut-off faucets be considered for restrooms in Medina Park.

Fleischman asked about muddy area near east parking lot, Willis answered the area receives field run off and will speak to Pat Crickmore about drain installed there. Fleischman commented there are too many paper signs posted at the park and suggested the board consider a sign policy or standard in cooperation with Public Works.

Park Updates

Medina Beach Outlook Area Bench Update (7:46 pm)

Willis announced the benches were ordered. Willis said the Brazilian Redwood was selected for its density and would weather from red to gray and the bench style will be in a fan-shape of four backless sections, and would be anchored with concrete.

Old Business

Geese Enforcement (7:47 pm)

Willis stated he contacted the City of Kirkland and was informed the City contracts with a dog handler and the Department of Wildlife coddles the eggs to control the geese population. Willis indicated he didn't obtain cost information, but would do so. Willis said the droppings are less of a problem with weekly grass mowing.

Installation of Sanitation Stations in Medina Park (7:49 pm)

Nunn defined her proposal and volunteered to investigate costs of installation and supplies for a total of four Purell stations at Medina Park, Medina Beach Park and Fairweather Nature Preserve; the board agreed.

Park Signs (7:52 pm)

Nunn described information she located from the Internet and a sign example from dock at Yarrow Point.

Resident Wilma Edmonds contributed that the five-corners area of Medina Park was originally designed in layers and planted to bloom white at different times of the year. She indicated she has the name and contact information for original designer and conveyed the designer has an interest in Medina and offered to provide the information to the board. Edmonds recalled that at one time Viewpoint Park was weeded and maintained for years by the Park Board and others belonging to "The Weeders" work party.

Fleischman delayed discussion of topic and postponed until the next meeting due to absences.

New Business

Friends of the Park (8:08 pm)

Nunn suggested beginning a pea patch in the unopened street/open space area between 78th Avenue Northeast and 79th Avenue Northeast, and suggested revisiting a public donation program and sponsorship opportunities. Sparks expanded on theme for docent program.

Lucius Biglow, 2425 Evergreen Point Road, Medina (8:14 pm)

Resident distributed and summarized a checklist to board members. Biglow recounted evolution of Medina's parks since 1956 and current park uses available. Biglow expressed non-support for spending city funds for playgrounds and would encourage residents to explore using community schools for

playground use. Resident stressed preference to maintain open space at parks and favored installation of a walkway through marshy area with minimal disturbances to wildlife. Biglow encouraged improvement to ordinance 774 and indicated he would volunteer in parks and suggested docents carry binoculars.

Thomas Bacher, 9810 Sunset Way, Bellevue (8:29 pm)

Bacher summarized his use of Medina Park and suggested installation of additional disabled parking signs in gravel lot at Medina Park. Resident discussed his physical disabilities and explained the difficulty he has abiding by leash law due to health concerns. Bacher indicated he would volunteer to work on an unbiased park survey.

MOTION NUNN, SECOND SPARKS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION AT NEXT PARK BOARD MEETING IN ORDER TO GAIN ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY AND BOARD MEMBER INPUT, MOTION PASSED 4-0, 8:39 PM.

Park Board Participation in Medina Days (8:39 pm)

Nunn suggested increasing the visibility of the Park Board as a body and as individuals during Medina Days, through a small-scale effort, such as through a parade, picture board, craft project or photo booth.

Sparks suggested discussion be continued to June meeting to include absent boardmembers and to discuss whether members in expiring positions would remain on the board in August.

Playfields (8:42 pm)

Fleischman postponed discussion until June meeting.

Other Business (8:42 pm)

Willis indicated Pat Crickmore ordered repair parts for water fountain and repairs should address water pressure problem when plastic plumbing is replaced with stainless steel.

Willis told Park Board a Viewpoint Park neighbor requested arrows on bollards be removed. Board recommended request go before the City Council.

Nunn announced there would be a Medina Elementary School farewell party on Wednesday, June 22nd at 10:30 am. It will be open to all community members and city officials, and there will be an opportunity for people to have their handprints marked on a permanent installation that will be placed in the new school.

Adjournment

MOTION AND SECOND TO ADJOURN MAY 16, 2005 PARK BOARD MEETING, MOTION PASSED 4-0, 8:46 PM.

May 16, 2005 Park Board meeting adjourned, 8:46 pm.

Next Park Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2005; 7:00 pm.

Minutes taken by:

Rachel Baker
Administrative Assistant